

PEACE IN PROSPECT.

All the Powers Agree to the Proposed European Congress;

Which Is to Meet as Soon as Possible at Baden-Baden.

The British Fleet Withdrawn from Its Position Near Constantinople; And Is Now Lying at Anchor Forty Miles from the City.

This Move Will Render the Proposed Russian Occupation Unnecessary.

Russian Troops Ordered Not to Advance upon Gallipoli.

Insurrection in Full Blast in Both Crete and Thessaly.

Scenes in the English House of Commons During the Late Debate.



AN UNDERSTANDING.

A CONFERENCE AGREED UPON.

[By Cable to The Chicago Tribune.]

LONDON, Feb. 16.—A meeting has at last been agreed to by all the Powers, and it will assemble at Baden-Baden at the earliest possible date, each Power being represented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Austria will make

AN ENERGETIC PROTEST against the prolonged occupation of Bulgaria by Russia, and also against the final autonomy of Bulgaria. She has abandoned the prospect of sending iron-clads to Constantinople. With regard to the future status of the Dardanelles she is wholly in accord with England. The British fleet having withdrawn to Mundaia Bay, about forty miles from Constantinople, the Russians

HAVE NOT YET OCCUPIED THAT CITY, although a detachment has entered the port in the outlying suburbs.

There has been severe fighting in Thessaly between the Turks and Christians. The insurgents and Greek volunteers are crossing the frontier in large numbers.

A TURKISH IRON-CLAD was heavily injured by torpedoes, which a Greek swam off from Corfu and attached to her bow.

ALL AGREED.

THE CONGRESS TO MEET AT BADEN-BADEN. LONDON, Feb. 16.—All the Powers, including Russia, have assented to a Congress at Baden-Baden.

The Political Correspondence, of Vienna, says: "The negotiations were only delayed by the sudden acuteness of the relations of England and Russia. The Czar and Sultan are actively employing personal and military dispatches. It is expected that peace will be signed by the time the Congress meets, namely, two or three weeks."

ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

A Vienna telegram says: "Notwithstanding the prospect of the Congress, the situation is still considered grave. It is rumored that England has made overtures for an understanding and arrangements with Austria. The latter is negotiating a loan with the Rothschilds."

CONSTANTINOPLE. THE SULTAN'S GUARD.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 16.—It is generally expected that Grand Duke Nicholas will enter Constantinople with a portion of his army, but will come as the guest and friend of the nation with the consent of the Sultan. The Russians consider this will give England no cause but, especially as their ships are near the capital against the express wish of the Sultan and the Porte.

ARMED NEUTRALITY.

In the Russian camp, the renewal of hostilities is discussed as more probable than peace, and every measure is being adopted to consolidate the Russian advance. The entrance of a British fleet into the Dardanelles before the conclusion of an armistice would have been answered, it is reluctantly said, by a Russian declaration of war, but whether such would now be the case cannot be foreseen. War with England would be very popular with the army, though the officers speak of it gravely as a terrible struggle. In this state of feeling, if we have to begin again, say Russian officers, nothing could save Constantinople but we would not leave one stone upon another.

LATENT AND THE SULTAN.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 16.—The British Ambassador had a long audience with the Sultan last night, to explain England's policy to his Majesty.

NAMIK PAsha.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 16.—It is stated that Namik Pasha, who has gone to the Russian headquarters, charged to dissuade the Grand Duke Nicholas from occupying Constantinople, is also instructed to endeavor to induce the British Fleets to reduce certain fresh peace conditions of a very onerous character, demanded by Russia.

THE TURKISH SQUADRON arrived on Friday, bringing stores and torpedoes from Sulina, which has been evacuated.

WITHDRAWN.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 16.—The British fleet

CONSTANTINOPLE.



The European struggle has gradually centered about Constantinople, operations north of the Balkans having been entirely stopped by the armistice, and the main forces of both belligerents being now encamped in the Peninsula, between the Black Sea and the Archipelago. In order to give our readers a full geographical understanding of the situation, we print this morning two maps that may safely be described as marvels of accuracy. The one above shows the exact location of every town and village between Adrianople and the Capital of Turkey, together with a portion of Asiatic Turkey. The immense importance of Gallipoli, so often referred to in our dispatches, can be seen at a glance. The Russian headquarters are now near Buyuk Tekechmedj. While the British fleet has been anchored about twenty miles distant, off Prince's Islands, thirteen miles southeast of Constantinople, but was yesterday ordered to Mundaia Bay, about forty miles from the city. The smaller map shows the Bosphorus from the Black Sea to the Sea of Marmara, and accurately represents the relative positions of the old town of Constantinople and the Christian quarter of Pera, on opposite sides of the Golden Horn.

has been withdrawn to Mundaia Bay, forty miles north of Constantinople. This movement is attributed to the desire of England to facilitate the negotiations to prevent the entry of the Russians. The instructions to Namik Pasha have been revoked, and he has not gone to Adrianople.

GALLIPOLI. ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 16.—The Agency Russa says orders have been sent to the Russian headquarters not to occupy Gallipoli.

ENGLAND. THE LONDON TIMES.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—The Times' leader today is very particular. It says: "It will be due to some gratuitous mismanagement if the relative positions of England and Russia near Constantinople lead to any serious misunderstanding. Our own Government may be trusted to act with combined moderation and firmness. If the Russians are reasonably prudent, there is no reason why the Powers should not conclude peacefully into the Conference."

Mr. Gladstone yesterday received adhesion from the Workmen's Nationality Committee, and consented to address a public meeting of the workmen of London on the Eastern question. The object of the meeting is stated to be to hold the Government to the policy of neutrality, and to secure the thorough independence of provinces which have been freed from Turkish oppression. The meeting will probably be held on the 25th of February, in Agricultural Hall, Islington. Sir Alfred Lawton, and John Bright, James Stansfield, Arthur, and Newall, other members of Parliament are expected to participate in the meeting. A workmen's mass-meeting, with the same objects in view, is also called for the 24th inst. in Hyde Park.

INCIDENTAL NOTES. GERMANY'S POSITION.

BERLIN, Feb. 16.—Not only is it unlikely that Germany will undertake the part of arbiter by default, but the indications are that the Russian action is regarded here as at variance with the understood programme, namely, the liberation of the Christians, and nothing more. The interpretation of the Eastern question comes up again in the Reichstag on Tuesday.

THE TURKISH. LONDON, Feb. 16.—The report of the wreck of the Italian frigate Terrible, near Salonicos, was untrue. The vessel struck the shoals, but floated unharmed.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—Her Majesty's frigate Raleigh, on the Mediterranean station, is shore near Rabbat's Island, South Tenos, but sustained no injury.

THE GREEK WAR. ATHENS, Feb. 16.—A strong body of insurgents besieging Platano, from Thessaly. The British reinforcements from Ambricos have been repelled. Seven hundred Greek volunteers crossed the frontier yesterday, and a considerable number left Piraeus last evening for Lamia.

CONGRESS, NOT CONFERENCE. VIENNA, Feb. 16.—According to intelligence from a trustworthy source, a Congress, not Conference, is certain. It will probably be held at Baden-Baden, which place Austria has proposed.

THE TURKISH. ATHENS, Feb. 16.—The Thessalian insurgents took Platano to-day. It is supposed they will not be able to hold it.

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THE PROBLEM.

How to Run a Big City Without Money.

The City Officers Have Not Yet Announced Their Solution.

American Personal-Property Taxes Gov. Cullom Opposed to a Special Session.

The Recent Decision of the Supreme Court Carried to its Logical Conclusion.

Is Mourning by the Effect Its Enforcement Will Have.

OUR FINANCES.

APRIL AT THE CITY-HALL

They have dropped back into the rut, and the old rutocracy was as vote of news yesterday as a square in a druggist's window is of water.

There was very little talk about the future. No one seemed to think it of any importance, so confident are all, heads of Departments as well as employees, that the Mayor and Comptroller have hatched out a plan which will put an end to the closing of the doors.

The officials named, if they have not made a plan, are inclined to give it themselves, since nothing relating to them can be panned out by them after an interview. It is pretty certain, however, that they look with favor upon the warrant system. That is really the only practicable step for them to take. What strengthens this conjecture is the fact that the Mayor was so urgent to have the Finance Committee report an appropriation bill which left a margin for shrinkage, not only on account of the non-collection of taxes but also for a discount of warrants.

A strong effort will be made to get the Council to agree to an appropriation of at least \$4,000,000.

It is not the intention to spend that much money. At least 15 per cent will not be collected, and, in order to insure the receipt by employees of their full salaries, a reduction in the force will doubtless be made so as to offset the saving which will have to be submitted to get cash for the city's paper. This will work very well as to clerks and laborers, but the interest on the bonded debt cannot be met unless capital is had in hand to carry it until the money is in the Treasury.

Two or three compans fall due before the time for 1873 begin coming in, and they will have to be held for twelve, nine, and three months, respectively. The payment of the interest is to be held over, but that is not known to the Mayor and Comptroller. Were they sure of getting the funds to pay it, their plans would not be disturbed by visions of probable bankruptcy, whatever programme is to be carried out will come to the surface. Until then it is useless to attempt to penetrate the still confused and uncertain mechanism of the Governmental machine.

A reporter asked the Comptroller yesterday what he thought of THE TRIBUNE's suggestion in reference to:

SMALL WARRANTS.

He makes them available for paying taxes.

"I think," said he, "we should need a crisis to get out of that idea."

He means what the clerical labor of your office increased?

"I couldn't answer that question now."

"I think the practical result of small warrants is, of course, but if small warrants are needed, enough could be procured from the men who work on the streets at \$1.50 a day. They usually get paid for five or six days."

"Suppose you issue them also to policemen and firemen,—give a man half a dozen or dozen warrants, instead of one covering his whole pay?"

"We could do it, as I said, but I don't approve of it at first blush."

"Why not?"

"The result of the multiplicity of warrants would be, and the increase of labor, I don't think it would be to the interest of the city to have these little shimplasters out on the streets."

"Cheering the subject. In December, 1870, Mayor Mason reported that the city had no bonding indebtedness. How do you account for the \$2,000,000?"

From the fact that prior to that time there was money provided by the lending of bonds for water, sewerage, City-Hall, school buildings, etc., and that the same were not repaid, when the Constitution was adopted, the money of bonds is prohibited, and as the taxes levied were expended before they were collected, we had to borrow money on temporary certificates."

This is meant as a means of preventing being employed along the

"We may be given for the termination of 10 o'clock, except in the East, and for the payment of large shipments of cattle to be in favor beyond that hour."

"In accordance with the temperature act, to be informed, will somewhat relax the restrictions on the movement of Members who have removable liability to its penalties."

"The temperature legislation is to be in force from Hanover relative to a committee offering to bow him, the letter he had heard nothing from the New York, the contrary, he sent a letter to the Tribune, giving the names of bad reports."

"He has left Beaumont and is now in one of the West."

"We are told that Louis Riel, has left Beaumont, and is now in one of the West."

"We are told that Francis Hinckes in the House of Commons, and the Canadian members of the House of Commons, were employed on the Pacific Railroads. His white hair is more than five Chinese is being employed along the

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"The temperature legislation is to be in force from Hanover relative to a committee offering to bow him, the letter he had heard nothing from the New York, the contrary, he sent a letter to the Tribune, giving the names of bad reports."

"He has left Beaumont and is now in one of the West."

"We are told that Louis Riel, has left Beaumont, and is now in one of the West."

"We are told that Francis Hinckes in the House of Commons, and the Canadian members of the House of Commons, were employed on the Pacific Railroads. His white hair is more than five Chinese is being employed along the

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Children.

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Cured by Touch-
ing Faith.

The Secular Authorities Regard It
as Being on a Par with
the Mauch-Chunk
Affair.

Wonderful Career of the Late
Abdul Ghafur, the Pope
of the Mussulmans.

General Notes--Persons--Humorous
Facts--Services To-Day.

THE BIBLE.
THE WORD OF GOD IN THE LIGHT OF MODERN SCHOLARSHIP.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

MILWAUKEE, Feb. 16.—The great flurry that has shamed the theological heavens of Christendom over the publication of Dr. William Robertson Smith's articles on the "Bible" in the new edition of the Encyclopedic Britannica, together with the summary suspirations of the Doctor from his pulpit in the Free Church College, about the question of his heresy, has settled—makes it a matter of primary interest to know how far a man may pursue the divine right of free and impartial investigation respecting the history and authorship of the Scriptures, without imperiling his ecclesiastical position and bringing down upon his head the holy indignation of the Prelacy. It seems that the Free Church of Scotland is determined that no one shall think freely within its bounds without being stigmatized as an "infidel," and being arraigned before its august authority to answer the pert and contemptuous charge of "heresy." We have these articles of Prof. Smith with much pleasure and profit, and with your permission will lay before the many readers of THE TRIBUNE some of the information thus obtained, interspersed with a few private reflections which have been suggested by the study. The plan pursued by Dr. Smith in his study and analysis of the Scriptures is known as the "grammatico-historical" method, which is of modern origin, and which follows in the wake of the old method of textual exegesis and interpretation, which in their turn had sprung from the Punic. This method throws a flood of light upon many a dark question connected with the authorship and history of the various books of the Bible, and at the same time avails the student of the Bible with a novel and transparent method. The Pentateuch is shown to be not the uniform production of one pen, but in some way, a variety of records of different ages, styles, and sources. The Gospels are shown to be two-fold history of Creation and the Flood, in which the respective writers employ the language of the Old Testament, and the names of the Creation are adhered to a certain extent, which proves to be a fact which shows that the writers of the Gospels did not originate in the departments of thought. They were at first exceedingly crude and unspiritual, and represented a soulless mass of bare bones, and were not easily understood by the people. The priests were probably in possession of "written legal documents" from the time of Moses; down; but these legal documents were not definitely fixed, and there was a close resemblance in many of the words; all of which made it inevitable that errors would be introduced into them, and hence they came to be the standard of the Divine mind. The Gospels are shown to be a plan, a literary structure, formed by the author of the Gospels, and, being set at defiance, had the grounds

CLARED BY THE MILITARY.

The people offered little resistance. The police was then called in to quell the rebellion, and a military garrison quartered on the village, which had made a mint of money in the preceding days of the revolts. The three little girls who had been left to their fate, were still in the power of the Virgin and the Devil.

The three little girls con-

stantly kept in the ground to place the hands of invalids on the invisible Virgin's feet, and implored her to restore them to health. The invalid was produced, laid his hands where the children told him they saw the Virgin's feet, and forthwith was on his way rejoicing to health again. The three little girls, who had been so fond of the Virgin, were destined to make up for their ignorance miserably by the writers of the Gospels. Many of these so-called "prophets" were the only innocent persons in the world. The apocryphal, who allowed itself to be crucified, and who was buried in the sepulchre of the proceedings, declined to see any of the neighboring priests, whom the children proposed to call, but ordered a chapel to be built on the spot, and appointed a priest to officiate. Finally, the appearance, in reply to the express inquiry made by his precocious interrogators, proved an invalid to be conveyed to the Holy City, and the Pope, and the three little girls, who had been so fond of the Virgin, were destined to make up for their ignorance miserably by the writers of the Gospels. Many of these so-called "prophets" were the only innocent persons in the world. The apocryphal, who allowed itself to be crucified, and who was buried in the sepulchre of the proceedings, declined to see any of the neighboring priests, whom the children proposed to call, but ordered a chapel to be built on the spot, and appointed a priest to officiate. Finally, the appearance, in reply to the express inquiry made by his precocious interrogators, proved an invalid to be conveyed to the Holy City, and the Pope, and the three little girls, who had been so fond of the Virgin, were destined to make up for their ignorance miserably by the writers of the Gospels. 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